PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A "DECLARATION" THAT A GENERIC OR SPECIFIC NAME BASED SOLELY UPON THE "APTYCHUS" OF AN AMMONITE (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA) BE EXCLUDED FROM AVAILABILITY UNDER ARTICLE 27 OF THE "RÈGLES" AND PROPOSED SUPPRESSION OF CERTAIN SUCH NAMES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

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(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)589 (proposed "Declaration"); Z.N.(S.)858 ("Official Lists" and "Official Indexes"))

Sub-section (*a*) of Article 27 of the *Règles* provides that "the oldest available name is retained when any part of an animal is named before the animal itself." The present application seeks a clarification of this provision in one particular.

2. Many nominal genera are based upon nominal species of which the type specimens are incomplete. The foregoing rule is therefore, in general, desirable.

3. There are however certain special cases where the application of the above rule would lead to highly undesirable disturbance of existing nomenclature. Such cases can be dealt with either by the insertion of words in Article 27 ruling out from availability names based exclusively upon some specified part of an animal or can be eliminated individually by the names concerned being suppressed by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature under its Plenary Powers, the names so suppressed being then placed on the appropriate *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Names in Zoology.*

4. An example of the undesirable disturbance of existing nomenclature which would arise from the strict application of Sub-section (*a*) of Article 27 is provided by the names bestowed upon the aptychi of ammonites, structures which are now generally admitted to be opercula, analogous with those of gastropods. In the first half of the XIXth century, the nature of these structures was not understood, and several nominal genera and nominal species were established for them in the belief, usually, that they were lammellibranchs. Subsequently, some of these opercula have been found *in situ* in the body-chamber of ammonites. In these cases the names currently used for the genera and species of ammonite concerned were not published until long after the names published for their aptychi. The names published for the aptychi being at present available names, there is a serious risk of disturbance in current nomenclatorial practice unless the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature takes preventive action.

5. One of the oldest nominal genera based upon aptychi is *Trigonellites* Parkinson, 1811 (*Organic Remains former World* : 184), for which a description and good figures were provided by Parkinson. No type species was designated for this genus, the type species of which must however be one or other of the two originally included nominal species, *Trigonellites latus* Parkinson, 1811 (: 186, pl. 13, figs. 9, 12) and *T. lamellosus* Parkinson, 1811 (: 186, pl. 13, figs. 10, 11). Since Parkinson's time, the nominal species *T. latus* has been identified as having been based upon the aptychus of a species of the genus *Aspidoceras* Zittel, 1868, and *T. lamellosus* as having been based upon a species of the genus *Oppelia* Waagen, 1869. Thus, whichever of the foregoing species were to be selected as the type species of the nominal genus *Trigonellites* Parkinson, a serious situation would arise, for in the one case the name *Trigonellites* Parkinson would replace the name *Aspidoceras* Zittel, while in the other case that name would replace *Oppelia* Waagen. These are both important genera and are the type genera of families ; the supersession of either of these names would give rise to confusion and would be open to strong objection. It is the object of the present application to prevent these and other names in current use from being invalidated by the resuscitation of these old names based upon aptychi. In the present case it is desirable that, as part of its decision in regard to the name *Trigonellites* Parkinson, the International Commission should place the name *Aspidoceras* Zittel on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*. In the case of *Oppelia* Waagen, 1869, a proposal for its addition to the *Official List* has already been submitted to the International Commission (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2** (6–8) : 227) and no further action is therefore needed here[2]. It may be noted that Dr. F. Trauth (Vienna), the sole world authority on aptychi, does not recognise as an available name any generic name or specific name based solely upon the aptychi of ammonites. See Trauth, F., 1927–1936, Aptychenstudien I–VIII (*Ann. naturh. Mus. Wien* **41-48**) (especially " Aptychenstudien I ", published in 1927 (*loc. cit.* **41** : 221–228)). It will be seen therefore that the action now recommended is in line with current usage both from the point of view of the study of ammonites and from that of the study of aptychi.

6. It is accordingly recommended that the International Commission should render a " Declaration " recommending the International Congress of Zoology to amend Article 27 of the *Règles* in such a way as to deprive of availability in zoological nomenclature any name based solely upon the aptychus of an ammonite.

7. The amendment of the *Règles* in the foregoing sense would completely dispose of the problem here under consideration, but in the nature of the case this is a remedy which cannot be secured until the suggested " Declaration " is reported to, and approved by, the next International Congress of Zoology. It would however be most undesirable that the particular names with which we are here concerned should be permitted to retain their present status until the next Congress, for, as matters now stand, it would otherwise be necessary to take account of them in the forthcoming *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*. It is therefore recommended that the immediate situation should be dealt with by the suppression of these names by the International Commission under its Plenary Powers, the names in question, when so suppressed, being placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

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[2] This name has now been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in *Opinion* 311 (in the press).

8. The proposals which are now specifically submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature are that it should :—

(1) render a "Declaration" recommending that Sub-Section (*a*) of Article 27 be amended by the addition of the following words excluding from its scope anygeneric name or specific name based solely upon the aptychus of an ammonite : "save that, where a nominal genus or nominal species of ammonites (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) has been established solely upon an aptychus or upon aptychi, the generic name or, as the case may be, the specific name published for the nominal genus or nominal species so established is to have no status in zoological nomenclature" ;

(2) in anticipation of the insertion in the *Règles* of the foregoing amendment of Article 27, use its Plenary Powers to suppress the under-mentioned names of generic and specific names of species, each of which is based solely upon the aptychus, or upon the aptychi, of ammonites :—

(*a*) the under-mentioned generic names :—

(i) *Trigonellites* Parkinson, 1811, *Organic Remains former World* **3** : 184 ;
(ii) *Solennites* Schlotheim, 1813, *Tasch. Min.* : 105 ;
(iii) *Solenites* Schlotheim, 1820, *Petref.* : 180 (an emendation of *Solennites* Schlotheim, 1813) ;
(iv) *Aptychus* Meyer, 1831, *Jahrb. f. Min.* 1831 : 393 ; *id.*, 1831, *N. Acta Acad. Caes. Leopold. Car.* **15** (No. 2) : 125 ;
(v) *Aptycus* Deshayes, 1845, *in* Lamarck, *Hist. Anim. sans Vertèbr.* (ed. 2) **11** : 228 (an emendation of *Aptychus* Meyer, 1831) ;
(vi) *Muensteria* Eudes-Deslongchamps, 1835, *Mém. Soc. linn. Normandie* **5** : 61 ;

(*b*) the under-mentioned specific names :—

(i) *lamellosus* Parkinson, 1811, as published in the binominal combination *Trigonellites lamellosus* ;
(ii) *latus* Parkinson, 1811, as published in the binominal combination *Trigonellites latus* ;

(3) place the six generic names proposed, under (2) (*a*) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology :*

(4) place the two specific names proposed, under (2) (*b*) above, to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology ;*

(5) place the generic name *Aspidoceras* Zittel, 1868 (*Pal. Mitt. Mus. Bayer.* **2** (Abt. 1) : 116) (gender of generic name : neuter) (type species, by monotypy : *Ammonites rogoznikensis* Zeuschner, 1868 (*in* Zittel, *Pal. Mitt. Mus. Bayer.* **2** (Abt. 1) : 116, pl. 24, fig. 5) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology :*

(6) place the specific name *rogoznikensis* Zeuschner, 1868, as published in the combination *Ammonites rogoznikensis* (specific name of type species of *Aspidoceras* Zittel, 1868) on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.*

COMMENT ON THE TYPE SPECIES OF "ANCILLA" LAMARCK, 1799 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

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(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)170)

(Reference to proposal submitted by Mr. Francis Hemming in the note published on pages 219-220 of the present volume)

Thank you for your letter and note regarding *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799. The procedure in designating the type species by monotypy of *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799, seems to be straight according to the recommendation of the Paris Congress and I see no objection to the procedure in that it gives a monotype which is congeneric with the species not named but indicated in the original description of the genus *Ancilla* Lamarck, 1799. Since the two species linked with the name are congeneric, it makes no difference.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED VALIDATION OF THE GENERIC NAME "STRATIOMYS" GEOFEFRY, 1762 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER DIPTERA)

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(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)710)

(For application see Stone (A.) *et al.*, 1954, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9(8): 248-246)

(Extract from a letter dated 20th May 1954)

Proposal for the validation of certain generic names in the Order Diptera submitted by Stone and others : I wish to express my wish that this list of genera be added to the *Official List.* The one that concerns me particularly is *Stratiomys.* If this name dates from Geoffrey 1762, the family name STRATIOMYIDAE will be saved; but if it dates from Geoffrey 1764, *Hist. Nat. des Insectes, Hirtea* Scopoli 1763 will have priority. In my opinion, *Hirtea* is a very feebly founded genus and I do not believe it can be maintained on a zoological basis.